

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GABORO 03291 231329Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----002834 231351Z /50S

O P 231151Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1322
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY DARESSALAAM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L GABORONE 3291

EXDIS

USUN FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, RH, US, UK
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: NEED FOR PUBLIC STATEMENT ON INTERNAL
SETTLEMENT TALKS

REF: LUSAKA 3901

1. EMBASSY AGREES FULLY WITH AMBASSADOR LOW'S CONCLUSIONS
(REFTEL) THAT BRITISH MUST BOLSTER THEIR SAGGING CREDIBILITY
WITH AFRICANS BY MAKING POSITIVE AND FORTHRIGHT PUBLIC STATE-
MENT ON CONTINUATION OF ANGLO-AMERICAN INITIATIVE. IN ADDITION,
WE BELIEVE IT IS HIGH TIME FOR UK AND US TO TAKE A STRONGER
PUBLIC STAND THAN HERETOFORE ON SMITH'S INTERNAL NEGOTIATION.

2. A STRONG STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLE IS NEEDED TO ALLAY
PATRIOTIC FRONT FEARS (CONVEYED TO US IN TALKS WITH PATRIOTIC
FRONT REP IN BOTSWANA) THAT BECAUSE THE UK AND US HAVE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GABORO 03291 231329Z

NOT MADE A STRONG PUBLIC STAND TO THE CONTRARY, THEY
MIGHT EVENTUALLY SUPPORT A BOGUS SMITH SETTLEMENT. TOO,
A TOUGH STATEMENT IS NEEDED TO SUPPORT THE HONEST NEGO-
TIATING EFFORTS OF MUZOREWA AND SITHOLE BY COMBATTING
SMITH'S CLAIM THAT THE US AND UK WOULD ACCEPT A "GENUINE
SETTLEMENT" (I.E., A SMITH SETTLEMENT) AGREED IN SALIS-
BURY (SEE PARA 4, PRETORIA 6995).

3. FINALLY, AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, SITHOLE IS URGENTLY ASKING FOR UK GUIDANCE AS TO WHAT WOULD CONSTITUTE AN "ACCEPTABLE" INTERNAL SOLUTION. IF WE REMAIN SILENT AND SMITH SUCCEEDS IN OBTAINING HIS BASIC NEGOTIATING DEMANDS, WE WILL SURELY BE ACCUSED OF HAVING ACQUIESCED IN RETURNING RHODESIA TO THE OLD SYSTEM OF MINORITY RULE.

4. THEREFORE, TO GAIN CONFIDENCE OF PATRIOTIC FRONT, TO SUPPORT THOSE NATIONALISTS WHO ARE CURRENTLY NEGOTIATING WITH SMITH, FURTHER TO UNDERCUT SMITH IN THOSE NEGOTIATIONS AND TO PROTECT OURSELVES AGAINST CHARGES OF ACQUIESCING IN A SMITH-DOMINATED INTERNAL SETTLEMENT, EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT NOW IS STRATEGIC TIME FOR USG/HMG TO MAKE AN UNEQUIVOCAL STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLE, SUPPORTING NO REPEAT NO INTERNAL SETTLEMENT NOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAIN PROVISIONS OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN.
ALBERTI

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GABORO03291
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770479-0994
Format: TEL
From: GABORONE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771223/aaaaasoy.tel
Line Count: 81
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 96c5cafd-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 LUSAKA 3901
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 140930
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RHODESIA: NEED FOR PUBLIC STATEMENT ON INTERNAL SETTLEMENT TALKS
TAGS: PDEV, RH, US, UK
To: STATE LONDON
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/96c5cafd-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009